

# Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 48, No. 35

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Sept. 8, 2000

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*Team Laughlin is featured in photographs taken during the Operational Readiness Inspection...*

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## Mission status

(As of Sept. 6)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)

	+ 2
T-1	
	+ 1.2
T-38	
	+ 2
T-37	

### Fiscal Year 2000 statistics

--Sorties flown: 63,828  
--Hours flown: 94,407.5  
--Pilot wings earned in FY 00: 272  
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,637

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# Laughlin gets "satisfactory" ORI rating

By Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit  
Editor

Sirens blared, lights flashed and whistles filled the air during the Operational Readiness Inspection outbrief Friday as members learned that Laughlin had received an overall "satisfactory" rating for its compliance with Air Force operating standards.

The ORI is a mandated biennial inspection that gives the Air Force a snapshot of the weaknesses and strong suits of a base. To do this, a team of inspectors from Randolph AFB inspected and compared Laughlin's units, practices and programs Aug. 21 through Friday to determine how effectively, efficiently and safely its missions and responsibilities are accomplished.

The ORI rating system ranges from unsatisfactory, marginal, satisfactory, excellent to outstanding. Laughlin was found to be "satisfactory," which means base members are per-

forming and operating to meet mission standards and are carrying out procedures and activities effectively and competently. "Laughlin is executing the mission in a safe and superb manner," said Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander. "I couldn't be more proud."

Inspectors examined leadership and management procedures at all levels and in all functions to determine each unit's ability to accomplish missions effectively and safely; to comply with laws and regulations; and, to place emphasis on the detection and prevention of fraud, waste and abuse. Following the assessment of individual units, inspectors combine ratings to establish overall ratings at group levels.

Several base units received excellent rat-

ings, and one unit received an outstanding rating, which led to two satisfactory and one excellent rating at group level. The 47th Operations Group was rated excellent, due largely to performances by the Life Support Flight, 47th Operations Support Squadron and Airfield Operations Flight. "All the folks in the operations group did an outstanding job," said Lt. Col. Jerry Young, 47 OG deputy commander. "Everyone worked really hard to be recognized as excellent performers."

Laughlin received praise for its appearance as inspectors called Laughlin, "A beautiful oasis in the desert." In addition, the static displays were cited for their impeccable looks and ability to "...welcome and

*"The inspector general team really gave Laughlin a very tough, but very fair evaluation. Laughlin has done a great job."*

*-Maj. Gen. Steven Polk  
19th Air Force commander*

See 'ORI,' page 5

## Security Forces members save civilian member's life

By Staff Sgt.  
Reginal Woodruff

Public affairs

Calm thinking and quick reaction by base security forces members proved vital during a medical emergency in the parking lot of building 256 here Saturday.

Senior Airmen Jonathan Howells and LaSandra Stout, and Airmen 1st Class Alfonso Luna-Ruiz, Nicole Roda and Jesus Mejia, all with the 47th Security Forces Squadron, helped save the life of a civilian employee who had an apparent heart attack during a routine traffic stop.

The event began when Howells pulled the employee over for suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol. As is normal during traffic stops, additional security forces members responded to the scene to ensure Howell's safety and to act as witnesses.

"When I arrived (Senior) Airman Howell's had pulled the guy over and was administering sobriety tests," said Stout, who walked to the scene from the law enforcement desk. "We're not allowed to remove civilians from their vehicles, so he administered a pre-exit test to the guy. You could smell the alcohol coming from him."

According to reports, a security forces member called the Val Verde Police Department to take the employee into custody. While waiting for VVPD to respond, the employee, who failed the series of sobriety tests, complained that he was feeling hot.

"We rolled the windows down in the rear of the vehicle to try to make him comfortable," Stout said. "Shortly afterwards he went

See 'Hero,' page 5

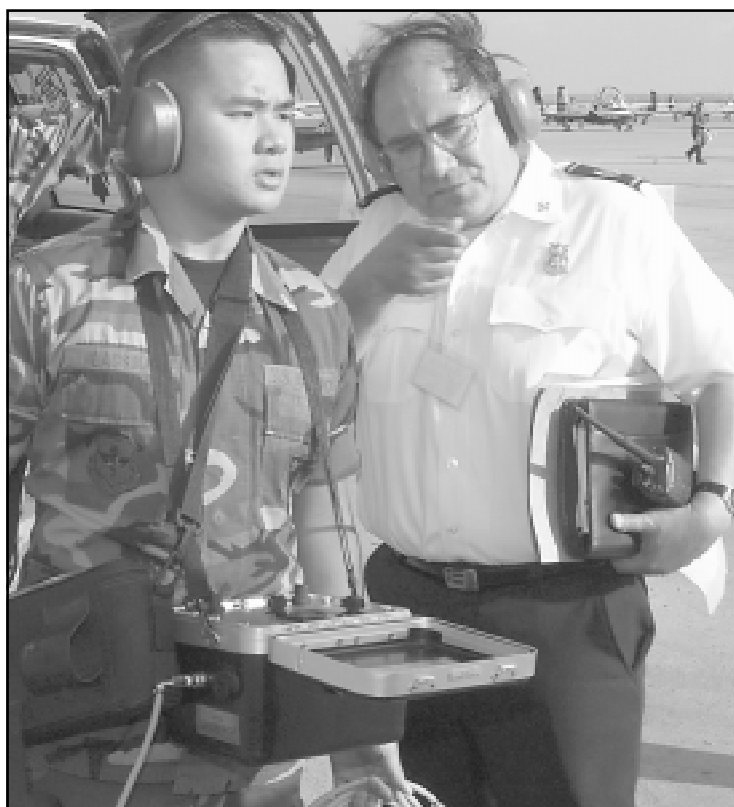


Photo by David Niebergall

## Look there!

Airman 1st Class Karl Lacsina, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, and Antonio Rodriguez, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, monitor a simulated hazardous material spill during the Major Accident Response Exercise phase of the Operational Readiness Inspection.

# Commanders Corner

## Leadership: *A case for action or rhetoric?*

By Col. Herbert Foret

47th Flying Training Wing vice commander

Well, the Operational Readiness Inspection is over and Team XL is returning to its normally hectic pace as we continue to “graduate the world’s best pilots.” As we review the results of the ORI, some units performed very well, and some units not as well as others. Many of you may be asking the same question, “How can I, as a vital member of the Team, take the ORI report and continue to improve and make things better?”

I submit the answer to the question focuses on “leadership.” As someone once said, “There are those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who wonder what happened.” Regardless of your unit’s performance, each of us has the opportunity to start anew to “make things happen.”

Clearly, we can use the results of the ORI as a template to shape our priorities and apply the tools of effective leadership as we strive to reach our ever-elusive vision of **continuous improvement**. Our country deserves no less. Effective and successful leaders are able to capitalize on opportunity and learn from their own and others’ successes and failures.

Some of you may be saying, “But I’m not a leader, just a civilian worker in a highly bureaucratic organization, or just a junior military member or student well down the seniority ladder. I disagree. Each member of Team XL is a leader, and I can prove my assertion with a simple test question: “Will what I do affect the outcome? ... If I take charge, will what I do help the team win or succeed?”

To “take charge” and lead requires a persistency of purpose, and the desire to rise to the occasion. In my view and experience, rising to the occasion requires inner strength, integrity, courage, self-confidence and

hope. All are very critical elements of effective leadership which enable ordinary people to do extraordinary things. I leave it to your own imagination as to what the occasion may or may not be. And, true leadership, at any level, is the successful application of one’s talent to address a challenge – any challenge – and work to resolve it.

As we move on to become a better team and reach even higher goals, we “leaders” should continue to demonstrate mental toughness as we remain goal oriented, all the while maintaining a compassion for our fellow team members.

*“Clearly, we can use the results of the ORI as a template to shape our priorities and apply the tools of effective leadership as we strive to reach our ever-elusive vision of continuous improvement.”*

I submit there are a few common sense and practical lessons we can place in our tool kit. Some, which may prove useful, as highlighted by Dr. Richard Lester of the Air University, include the following:

- Ask the right questions.
- Don’t sit there, do something.
- Give no special favors.
- Know when to lead and when to follow.
- Learn from your mistakes.
- Recognize the limits of your authority and capability.
- See the total picture.
- Trust, but verify.
- We all make mistakes.
- Where you stand affects what you see.
- You need good people.
- You needn’t be a workaholic.

And most of all, as we live up to our motto, “No One Comes Close,” remember those who are led demand the best leadership possible. Our Team, our Force and our people deserve it at every level.

The purpose of this editorial was not to provide a list of things to do, but to provide thoughts for action and to galvanize our commitment to “XL’ence.” Because in the end, tenacity, or the determination to succeed, and character compels results.

## Our nation appreciates sacrifices members make

By Lt. Col. Dave Henderson

McConnell AFB, Kan.

Recently, I attended a military funeral and during the service I reflected. Why is it, 40 years after a veteran has left the military, people so strongly remember that this individual served his country?

I can remember when World War II veterans from my local community died, and for each one there is as much in their obituary about their military service as for the other 60 or more years of their life. How can it be that these people are remembered so much for what ultimately was a few years of their life?

I think the answer is sacrifice. By the very fact they were veterans, these people gave some period of their lives for the good of this nation. They didn’t all give the same. Some answered the call during a time of crisis, while others spent an entire career in the military. Some maintained, some operated, some administered. Some supplied the bullets to the front, some fired the bullets across the front, some didn’t return from the front. All answered the call.

Consider these honored veterans, and think about what you are doing now. Perhaps you think you simply go to the office or the flightline and put in your 12 hours. Or perhaps you look ahead to the day when you can make the transition back to civilian life. Either way, don’t miss the here and now.

Each day, we all live an adventure. Sure, it may sound like a commercial, but think about it. How many of your old friends from back home are dealing with millions of dollars worth of equipment every day? How many of them can say if they don’t get their job done exactly right, someone else may pay the price with their life? And who among them can say that what they do provides security for an entire country? How many of them can say they lived away from their loved ones for months on end because it was important to the well being of the nation? And how many of your peers do you believe have thought about the possibility they could give their life in the course of doing their job?

**See ‘Service’ page 7**

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

Commander

1st Lt. Angela O’Connell

Public affairs officer

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Editor

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**“Excellence – not our goal, but our standard.”**

– 47 FTW motto

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# AETC's latest trainer crashes

A T-6 Texan II, assigned to the 12th Flying Training Wing at Randolph AFB, Texas, crashed just south of San Antonio at approximately 4:50 p.m. Aug. 31.

The aircrew was on an aircraft familiarization flight and conducting instrument procedures at the time of the accident. The two crew members, Maj. Todd A. Black and Lt. Col. Michael B. McGinty, ejected safely from the aircraft. They were transported to Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas, for treatment of minor injuries. There were no civilian injuries or damage to structures on the ground.

It was the first major aircraft accident for the 12th Flying Training Wing in nearly two decades. Randolph aircrews had logged more than 1,350,000 major-accident-free flying hours since a T-38A Talon crashed in southeast San Antonio on Dec. 10, 1981. Both crewmembers also ejected safely in that incident.

As a result of this most recent accident, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command announced that the T-6 Texan II will be stood down for an indeterminate period of time, during the accident

investigation by a board of military officers.

The T-6 Texan II is slated to eventually replace the T-37 "Tweet" as the primary trainer for Air Force and Navy aviation students. Twelve of the aircraft are currently assigned to Randolph AFB.

Randolph AFB is the first to begin using the T-6, training 12th Flying Training Wing members and pilot instructor students. Moody AFB, Ga., will be the next base to make the transition, tentatively scheduled to take place late next year.

In addition to Randolph and Moody, the Air Force will fly the new trainer at Laughlin AFB, Texas, Sheppard AFB, Texas, Vance AFB, Okla. and Columbus AFB, Miss.

The Navy T-6s will be stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla., and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

The Air Force will receive 372 of the aircraft and the Navy will get 339. An additional 29 T-6s will be used in the joint Air Force and Navy undergraduate navigator training program. Produced by Raytheon Aircraft Company, aircraft production is expected to last through 2014.



(Courtesy photo)

Here, a T-6 Texan is airborne. The aircrew involved in the crash was on an aircraft familiarization flight and conducting instrument procedures at the time of the accident. Laughlin is scheduled to receive its first T-6 Texan in 2002.

The T-6 is a single-engine, two-seat aircraft built on an all-aluminum frame. Stepped-tandem seating in the single cockpit places one crewmember in front of the other, with the student pilot in the front seat and the instructor in the rear. A single pilot may also fly the aircraft from the front seat.

Power comes from a Pratt & Whitney

Canada PT6A-68 turbo-prop engine that delivers 1,100 horsepower. The aircraft is 33.3 feet long with a wingspan of 33.4 feet. Its tail height is 10.6 feet. The T-6 has a maximum takeoff weight of 6,500 pounds. The aircraft is fully aerobatic and has an anti-G force system.

(Courtesy AFPC)

## Verifying, updating pay information made easier

Air Force civilian employees can receive their Leave and Earning Statements online via the Employee/Member Self Service system beginning Sept. 18.

Civilian employees were issued temporary Personal Identification Numbers in March when the Defense Finance and Accounting Service debuted the E/MSS system. Originally, they had until the end of July to customize their

PIN. To date, only 20 percent of the 162,130 Air Force civilian employees have customized their PINs. The DFAS has extended that deadline through the end of August.

The E/MSS is an Internet and telephone system allowing Defense Department members to update pay information without visiting a finance office. Active-duty members are scheduled to have service access in October.

Those who have lost their

temporary PIN or have not received one can call the E/MSS hotline at (800) 390-2348. The E/MSS Internet address is <http://www.dfas.mil/emss>. E/MSS can also be accessed by touch-tone telephone at (800) DOD-EMSS or (912) 757-3119.

"Those who take advantage of the E-LES system will be able to view their statements earlier, and they will be able review the last three pay periods online," said

Robert F. Hale, Air Force assistant secretary for financial management. "We think E/MSS will make it easier for all Air Force members to manage their military pay."

By logging onto the web site or using a touch-tone telephone, E/MSS lets employees update federal tax withholding information, adjust allotments, change addresses and conduct net pay electronic fund transfers. Along with E-LES, other future services in-

clude changing state tax status and exemptions and updating savings bond information.

"Flexibility and efficiency are the keys to E/MSS," said Mr. Hale. "While E/MSS use is voluntary, our people will be able to make changes to their pay from a computer on their desk at work, at home, if they're on a temporary duty assignment around the world or if they're changing stations."

(Courtesy AFPN)

### Actionline *Call 298-5351*

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



*Winfield W. Scott III*

**Col. Winfield W. Scott III**  
47th Flying Training Wing commander

### Cabin rentals...

**Call:** I am a current Department of Defense employee and a retired chief master sergeant from the U.S. Air Force Reserve. I have a complaint about the Amistad Marina and its policy for renting out cabins. Do they rent out a cabin to an eligible person who can then rent out two or three cabins to non-Air Force or non-DoD employees? If so, I think at least one of the cabins could be bumped by a non-DoD person. I've tried to rent cabins at least three to four weeks in advance. They are usually booked up a month in advance. Thanks.

**Response:** Thank you for your questions about cabin rentals. Active-duty military members are given priority and may make reservations for cabins at the Southwinds Marina up to 60 days in advance. Occasionally, customers will rent more than one cabin to accommodate all members of their party. This is authorized. Cabins may not be rented by an active-duty member and sublet to someone else. Because active-duty members usually rent cabins on weekends, our heaviest rental period, perhaps you might consider making reservations for a stay during the week. We are sorry you have not been successful attempting to rent a cabin for a weekend, but do hope you'll visit us another time.



# New NCOs pledge ...

No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored force.

I am proud of the noncommissioned officer corps and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon it.

Competence is my watchword. Two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind: accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my people. I will strive to keep myself technically proficient and physically and mentally prepared. I will understand my role as a noncommissioned officer and I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All airmen are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I

will know my people and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate with my people and never leave them uninformed...

I will not forget, nor will I allow my fellow airmen to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers—leaders  
**(The NCO creed)**



**Senior Airman Samantha Bogumil**  
47th Flying Training Wing



**Senior Airman Andy M. Artieda**  
47th Operations Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Diana B. Beauvais**  
47th Flying Training Wing



**Senior Airman Paul R. Bogumil**  
47th Security Forces Squadron



**Senior Airman Chad A. Church**  
47th Operations Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Phillip W. Clifton**  
47th Medical Operations Squadron



**Staff Sgt. Thomas R. Croteau**  
47th Operations Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Froilan M. Flores**  
47th Services Division



**Senior Airman Daniel L. Curtis**  
47th Communications Squadron



**Senior Airman Shonilli Gaston**  
47th Flying Training Wing



**Senior Airman Daniel D. Grabski**  
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron



**Senior Airman Brian R. Hinkle**  
47th Communications Squadron



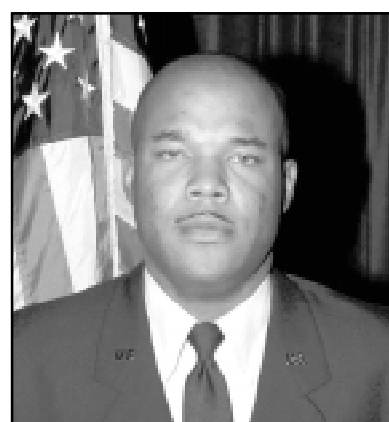
**Senior Airman Jonathon J. Howells**  
47th Security Forces Squadron



**Senior Airman Antionette McMillan**  
47th Mission Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Jennifer L. Nalls**  
47th Services Division



**Senior Airman Richard A. Parks, Jr.**  
47th Medical Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Damaris E. Schafer**  
47th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron



**Senior Airman Tammy S. Zwalve**  
47th Civil Engineer Squadron



**Senior Airman Michelle S. Vega**  
47th Medical Support Squadron



**Senior Airman Kimberly L. Waters**  
85th Flying Training Squadron



**Senior Airman Elizabeth L. Williams**  
47th Mission Support Squadron

**‘ORI’ from page 1**

please the eyes of those entering the base.”

Inspectors also gave critical acclaim to Laughlin’s flying training mission. According to inspectors, the wing commander, group commanders, squadron commanders, key staff and the dedicated men and women of the 47 FTW were effective in their mission to train the world’s finest pilots. The flying units train over 450 pilots annually. The support, logistics and medical groups provided great service to the wing’s mission.

Maj. Gen. Steven Polk, 19th Air Force commander, mirrored those comments; “Laughlin is our largest specialized undergraduate pilot training wing. Laughlin flies the most sorties everyday, produces the most students and leads the pack in that it produces the best pilots for our Air Force.”

Polk went on to say that Laughlin is doing well and should take the good things here and build on them, while also taking those things rated less than satisfactory and turn them around. “The inspector general team really gave Laughlin a very tough, but very fair evaluation,” said the general. “Laughlin has done a great job. Continue to produce the very best pilots for the U.S. Air Force.”

**‘Hero’ from page 1**

into a seizure or something. I tried to get him out of the car on the driver’s side, but he is a big guy.”

Howells and Mejia removed the driver from the vehicle and prepared to administer first aid. Howells checked his pulse and found it weak. Suddenly the employee stopped breathing and his pulse stopped.

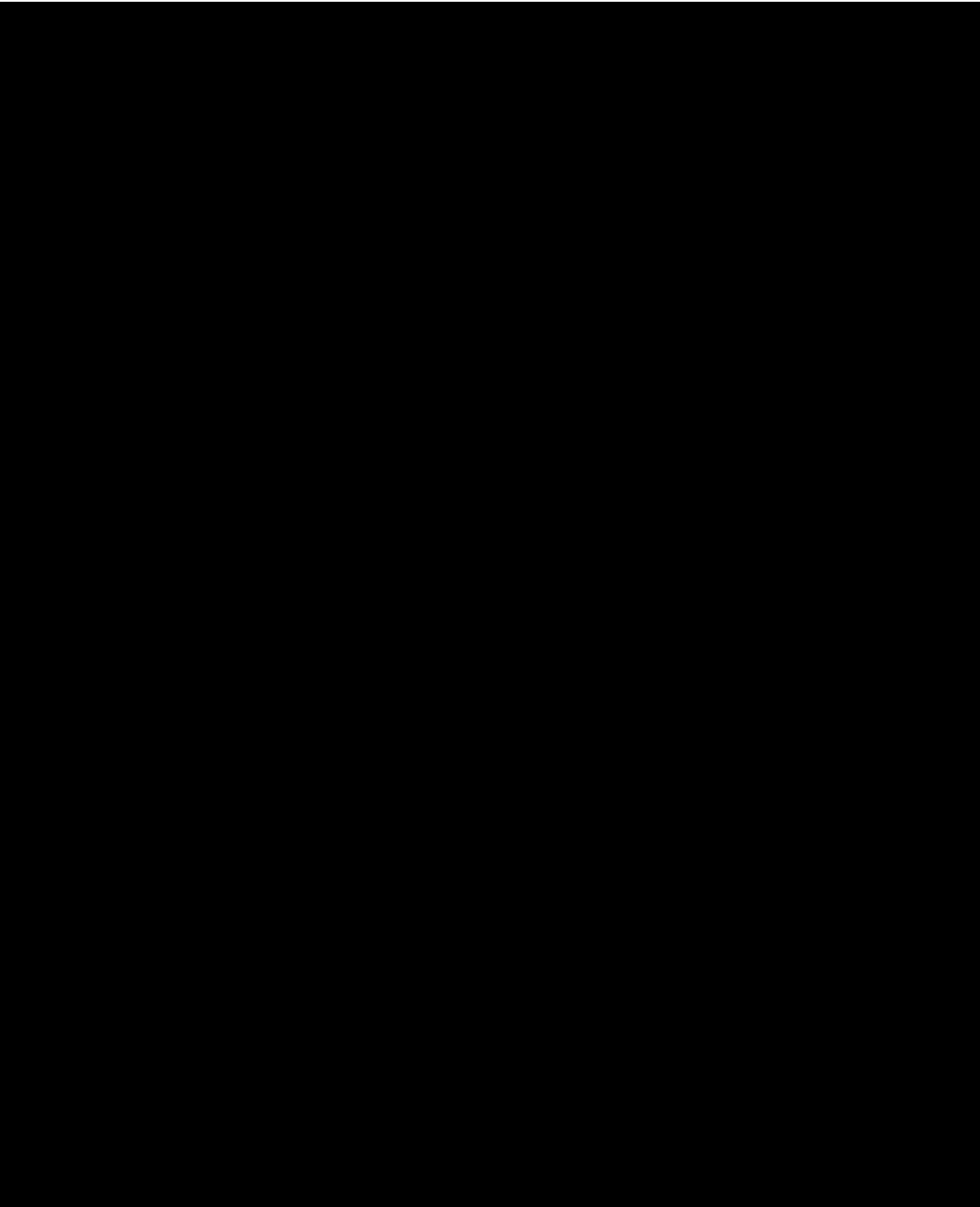
“From there, Howells took over,” Stout continued. “He started loosening the guys clothes. The guy came back and then faded. That’s when Howell’s started performing CPR on him. I took out my CPR mask, so I was ready, but if Howell’s wasn’t there, I don’t know what would have happened. He stayed calm through the whole thing.”

Howells continued performing CPR until an ambulance from

the 47th Medical Group arrived. After helping to load the victim on a stretcher, Mejia went with the victim to Val Verde Regional Medical Center, translating for medical group personnel whenever the victim, who is Hispanic, spoke Spanish.

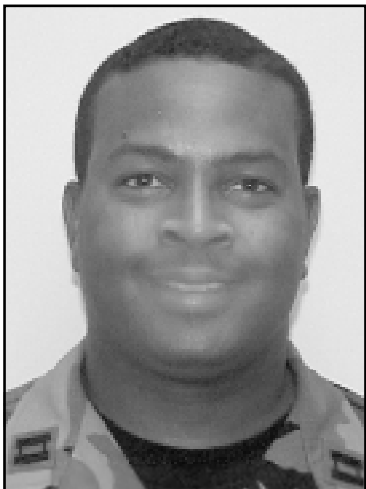
The employee was released from VVRMC Wednesday.

**Safety belts save lives  
– so buckle up!**



## Question of the week

### Now that the ORI is over, what improvements can you



ke? Build upon what we have accomplished and strive for higher heights.”

**Capt. Richard Black**  
*Base chapel*



“Know our filing system and plan files better.”

**Tech Sgt. Jeff DuMont**  
*47th Communications Squadron*



“We are going to implement Primary Care optimization, which was written by the surgeon general. It will streamline patient care so more can be accomplished at one visit.”

**Staff Sgt. Vicki Willis**  
*47th Medical Group*



“Not holding off so long on things that could have been done earlier, like updating files regularly.”

**Senior Airman John Daley**  
*47th Security Forces Squadron*



## From the Blotter

(From Aug. 29- Sept. 5)



■ An individual called in a possible intoxicated driver to the law enforcement desk. Two patrols were dispatched and the suspect was pulled over and failed the pre-exit test. The Val Verde Sheriff's Office was notified to take over the situation. While security forces had the suspect detained, he stopped breathing and had no pulse. Security forces immediately began CPR and called base ambulance services for assistance. The suspect was revived, but still had difficulty breathing. He was immediately transported to Val Verde Regional Medical Center for further treatment.

■ The law enforcement desk received a call stating an individual in the base exchange was spotted switching

price tags on products. Three patrols were dispatched and they detained the suspect. The suspect was then transported to building #140 for questioning. That individual was later released via Air Force Form 629 to the appropriate authority.

■ An individual living on base called security forces and stated she and her mother were receiving harassing phone calls. Patrols were dispatched and a statement of complaint was taken. The individuals stated they had been receiving these phone calls regularly for quite some time. They also stated they had already previously reported it to the Val Verde Sheriff's Office and attempted to run a trace. The individual(s) making the harassing calls remain unknown.

### ‘Service’ from page 2

There are some. Certainly police and firefighters provide our communities with protection and certainly they risk their lives, but military members do this on the grand scale – for the whole.

Someone actually does think about your sacrifices – our grateful nation that so readily honors our veterans. It is precisely because many people have pondered these sacrifices that veterans are remembered so much for their service, even 40 or 50 years after they have left active-duty. At the military funeral I was thinking, here lies a man who put his life on the line to protect us all. Was he any braver than the rest? Maybe, maybe not. But when this country had a tough job to do, there is no doubt that he stood and said, “I’ll do it.”

Whether you realize it or not, you are that person, right now, right here. You have said, “I’ll go to the far corners of the earth. I’ll endure long separations from my loved ones.” You ask little in return considering what you give this nation.

To you it may seem like any other job, but your country will remember your sacrifices for all of your days. You have, in essence, stood and said, I’ll do it.

## Recycle...



# The XLer

**Hometown:** Piqua, Ohio.  
**Family:** Wife, Staff Sgt. Mary Davis; daughter, Sara, 9 years old; Jim III, 3 years old.  
**Time at Laughlin:** 2 years, 2 months.  
**Time in service:** 17 years, 8 months.  
**Why did you join the Air Force:** Travel and discipline.  
**Name one way to improve life at Laughlin:** Community policing through public education.  
**Greatest accomplishment:** Graduating from the 10-week Ground Launch Cruise Missile School at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.  
**Bad habit:** Cigars.  
**Motto:** The only dumb question asked is a question unasked.  
**Favorite beverage:** Belgium, Chimay Blue Label Beer.  
**Favorite food:** Porterhouse.  
**Hobbies:** Scuba diving and hunting.  
**If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why?** My grandpa on my dad's side. I never got a chance to meet him because he died before I was born.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

**Master Sgt. Jimmie Davis**  
47th Security Forces Squadron

# Where are they now?

**Name:** Lt. Col. Al Botine.  
**Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin:** Class 88-03, Sept. 17, 1988.  
**Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at:** F-15E, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.  
**Mission of your aircraft?**

Anything a fighter can do, we can do.  
**What do you like most about your current aircraft?**

Anything a fighter can do, we can do.  
**What do you dislike most about your current aircraft?** I'm not seated in its cockpit 12 hours a day.  
**What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning**

**to fly?** To excel at every single event you attempt. No flight will ever be perfect, rarely will an individual maneuver be perfect and plans never survive contact with the enemy, but the drive and desire to do the absolute best you can will serve you

well no matter what your weapons system.  
**What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin?**

Graduation!  
**What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin?** If you don't want to be the best aviator you can possibly be, then you're in the wrong line of work.



(U.S. Air Force photo of an F-15)

# Laughlin survives Operation

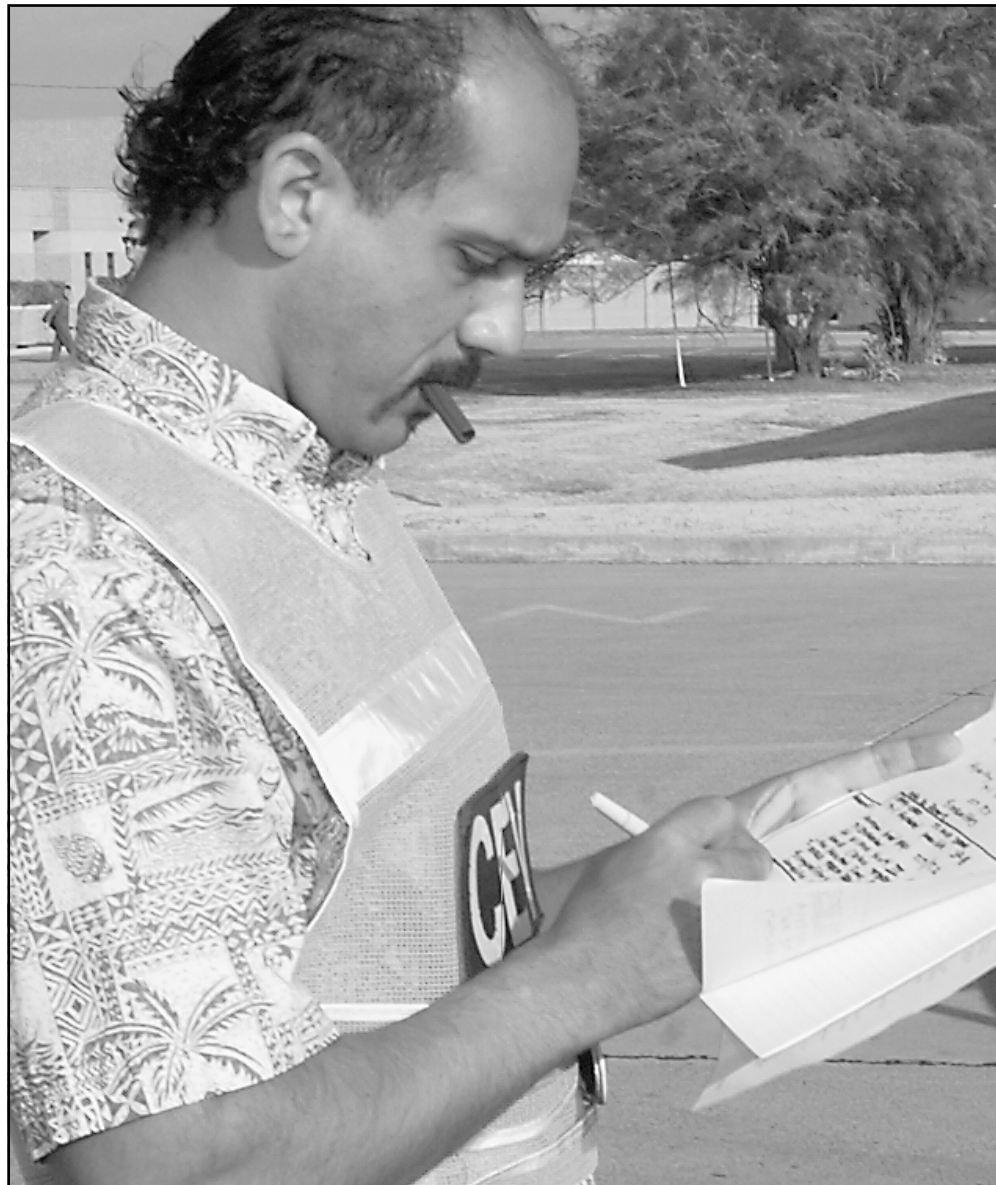
**Photos by David Niebergall**

*47th Communications Squadron*

(Right), John Chiamonte, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Ronald Rydzfski, Laughlin Civil Service Aircraft Maintenance, discuss environmental concerns brought on by the simulated explosion during the Major Accident Response Exercise phase of the Operational Readiness Inspection.



2nd Lt. Christopher Harris, 47 Civil Engineer Squadron, confers with Lt. Col. Charles Beck of the inspector general team during the Major Accident Response Exercise phase of the recent Operational Readiness Inspection.



(From left to right) Antonio Rodriguez, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, Master Sgt. V. Aeromedical Dental Squadron and Capt. Carl Sepulveda, 47 ADS, prepare to monitor the area for the Exercise Evaluation Team during the MARE phase of the ORI.



# Operational Readiness Inspection



(From left to right below), Col. John M. Betts, on-scene commander, Tech. Sgt. Eric Linneman, and Maj. Joel Dickinson, 47th Security Forces Squadron commander, confer at the scene of the simulated accident during the Major Accident Response Exercise phase of the Operational Readiness Inspection.



Valeria Richardson, 47th Security Forces Squadron member, for the simulated accident



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ruiz, Health and Wellness Center, tags a mannequin as part of her role as a member of the base Search and Recovery Team. In the event of an accident resulting in the death of a member, the Search and Recovery Team photographs, recovers and bags a body before it is released to Mortuary Affairs



**Capt Ross A. Paullet**  
KC-135-Pittsburgh, Pa. (ANG)  
Class Leader

# Class 00-14 flies to new challenges

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 00-14 graduates at 10 a.m. today in a ceremony in the Operations Training Complex.

The guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Steven R. Polk, 19th Air Force commander.

The 52-week SUPT program prepares student pilots for the entire spectrum of Air Force aircraft and flying missions.

Graduates of Class 00-14 have been assigned to aircraft at duty stations throughout the world.



**Capt Jason A. Smith**  
F-15-Tyndall AFB, Fla.  
Assistant Class Leader



**Capt. Jason S. King**  
C-141-McChord AFB, Wash.



**Capt. Don K. Little**  
E-3-Tinker AFB, Okla.



**Capt Christopher M. Skora**  
F-16-Luke AFB, Ariz.



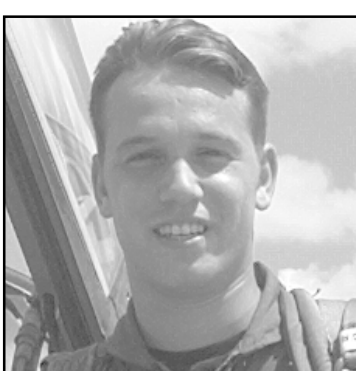
**1st Lt Brian A. Surdyk**  
C-141-McChord AFB, Wash.



**1st Lt Chad R. Teske**  
KC-10-McGuire AFB, N.J.



**2nd Lt Nathan T.B. Benn**  
A-10-Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



**2nd Lt Burcin Boyuer**  
F-16-Turkey



**2nd Lt Matthew J. Dooley**  
C-21-Randolph AFB, Texas



**2nd Lt Christopher J. Garnett**  
C-5-Dover AFB, Del.



**2nd Lt Sonny J. Hignite**  
T-38-Laughlin AFB, Texas



**2nd Lt Jeffrey W. Liegl**  
C-17-McChord AFB, Wash.



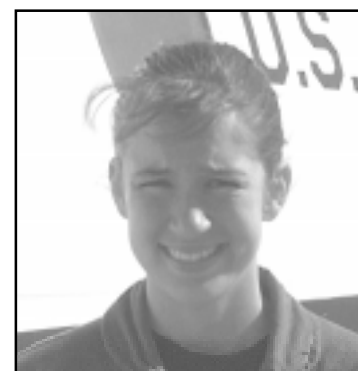
**2nd Lt Justin T. Mayfield**  
KC-135-Kadena AB, Japan



**2nd Lt Christopher W. Melka**  
F-16-Selfridge ANGB, Mich.



**2nd Lt Samuel J. Noland**  
C-17-Charleston AFB, S.C.



**2nd Lt Sarah E. Pierson**  
HC-130-Moody AFB, Ga.



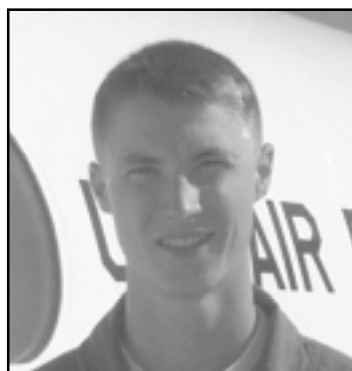
**2nd Lt John F. Rogers**  
T-37-Laughlin AFB, Texas



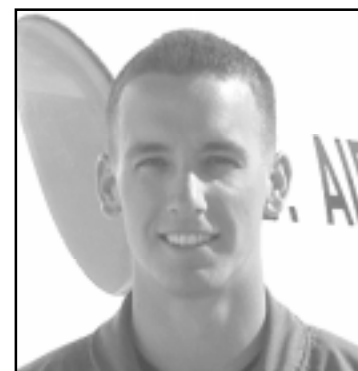
**2nd Lt Jon K. Rubin**  
F-16-Selfridge ANGB, Mich.



**2nd Lt Christina R. Stops**  
C-9-Scott AFB, Ill. (AFRC)



**2nd Lt Chris H. Turner**  
KC-135-Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



**2nd Lt Brian H. Weaver**  
KC-135-March ARB, Calif.

# Laughlin recycles: *What are you doing?*

## Pat Woods

47th Civil Engineer Squadron

Recycling is one of those programs that works quietly in the background, but requires everyone's participation to work properly, and the level evident at

Laughlin mirrors its success.

The recycling program itself is simple and straightforward, whose goal is to divert those recyclable items from ordinary trash, so that the materials can ultimately be reused in other

products rather than end up in a landfill. Once trash is placed in a landfill, the generator is forever liable for whatever problems it generates in the future.

The base has contracted most of the work out, and Goodwill Industries manages the general recycling effort. The materials they collect are sold to the Texas Recycling Association, and the proceeds return to the base to offset the cost of the Goodwill contract. Remember, the base avoids landfill costs associated with these recyclables, and then actually gets a cash return on top of that.

The base composting program "recycles" organic material such as tree limbs, grass clippings and leaves. When you add the recycling collection points that are established throughout the industrial side of the base, we diverted a total of 267 tons away from landfills last quarter, the base recycling program actually returns a profit! That's 267 tons the base did not pay to dispose of nor is liable for in the future!

According to Goodwill, about 92 percent of base households are recycling, which reflects a true XL spirit! This recycling spirit has even caught the eye of state environmental folks and is truly developing into a model program. We can recycle specific items only: paper and cardboard products, cans, glass, fluorescent bulbs in original box and certain plastics.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Roland DeLeon and Lisa Morin, Goodwill Industries, transfer paper from a recycling bin to a rolling cart to ship it out to the base recycling yard.

Check the bottom of plastic products and recycle only the ones with a 1 or 2 inside the recycling symbol-plastic wrapping, blister packs, bubble wrap and such are not accepted by the recycling company. In some cases, even odd or irregularly shaped 1 and 2 plastics or glass are not accepted either, such as microwave dinner plates, laundry detergent, scoops and floral vases, because the Texas Recycling Association does not recycle these items. Another common item not recycled is carbon paper.

Here are some tips to make recycling even more efficient:

- Wait until the recycling container is at least half full before placing curbside.
- If the recycling container is full, place segregated.

recyclables curbside in paper or plastic bags next to the recycling container

- Rinse food from cans and plastics before placing them in the recycling container.
- Segregate the cans, paper, glass, and plastics into separate compartments or bags.
- Break down cardboard boxes to make them flat

If you find items left behind in your recycling container, it's because those items are not recyclable and must be disposed as trash. Wednesday is the day Goodwill goes through housing to collect recyclables, and they do ask that the containers be out not later than 8 a.m.

If there are any questions, please call Gerald Hererra at 4230 or Pat Woods at 4351; we'll be happy to help out!

**Fraud, Waste and Abuse**  
Preventing Fraud, Waste and Abuse is everyone's job! If you know or suspect FWA, call the FWA hotline, 298-4170.

# Laughlin observes Hispanic Heritage Month

On Sept. 17, 1968, Congress passed Joint Resolution 1299 requesting President Lyndon B. Johnson issue an annual proclamation designating the week of Sept. 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Week. This weekly observance was changed to a month by a bill that became effective Jan. 1, 1989 after Hispanics in the nation's capitol got together and lobbied for almost two years. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 every year.

**What is so important about Hispanic Heritage Month?** Congressman Esteban Torres, author of the bill that changed Hispanic Heritage Week to a month expressed it well. It "gives everyone in the United States the opportunity to learn, appreciate and become sensitive to the contributions, achievements and aspirations of the Hispanic community. For Hispanics, this period gives us the opportunity to focus national and international attention on our particular concerns as a community."

Since 1968, Hispanics throughout the nation have held

observances to honor their culture and dwell on contributions made to the American way of life.

**How is Laughlin observing Hispanic Heritage**

**Month?** The Hispanic Heritage Committee has planned a couple of activities. The traditional free breakfast will be held at the Fiesta Center Sept. 18 from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. A luncheon is also

planned for Oct. 4 at Club XL from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The guest speaker for the luncheon will be Dora Alcala, mayor of Del Rio. This year's theme is "Children: Our Hope for the Fu-

ture."

For more information, call Gloria Vigil at 5411, Kathy Carson at 4872, Diana Jimenez at 5879 or Orie Gonzalez at 4882.



## Conserve water

Replace  
washers  
in leaky  
faucets.





## Cannon hosts bodybuilding competition

On Sept. 23, the Sports and Fitness Center of the 27th Services Squadron at Cannon AFB, N.M. will host the premiere national qualifier National Physique Committee 2000 Eastern New Mexico Bodybuilding Championship.

The event is expected to bring a large number of amateur bodybuilders to Clovis to compete for area titles.

Sanctioned by the NPC, the competition will run in accordance with the most recent NPC rules and procedures. All activities will be conducted in the Marshall Junior High School Auditorium located at 100 Commerce Way in Clovis.

Check-ins and weigh-ins will begin at 7 a.m. following by pre-

judging at 9 a.m. The finals will occur at 2 p.m. and include an appearance by guest poser Lena Johannesen, International Foundation of Body Builders fitness professional who has earned titles of 1st European Pro 1997, 1st Mid-West Pro 1998, 3rd Fitness Olympia 1997 and 3rd Fitness International 1999.

The competition is open to any NPC athlete. The entry fee is \$25. Non-NPC members may enter provided they join the NPC when checking-in. 2000 NPC cards will be available for \$50.

Men's weight divisions are light (under 154.25 pounds), middle (154.25 to 176.25), light heavy (176.25 to 198.25) and heavy (198.25 pounds and over).

Women's weight groups are light

(under 132 pounds) and heavy (132 and over).

Trophies (33" to 37" tall) will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each respective men's and women's divisions. One overall 43" trophy will be awarded in each division.

Contestants must make lodging arrangements. There are several commercial hotels/motels in the Clovis area.

Limited military lodging at Cannon AFB is also available. Immediate reservations are recommended.

Entry forms and other information about the event can be obtained from its point of contact, Staff Sgt. Roy Eby at (505) 784-7092, or through email at [r\\_workout@yahoo.com](mailto:r_workout@yahoo.com).



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

### Pumping up!

Senior Airman Chris Formes, 47th Communications Squadron, gets in a few military press repetitions at the XL Fitness Center Thursday. The XL Fitness Center is open to all active-duty and civilian members.



**Sports Safety –**  
**Play it Safe**

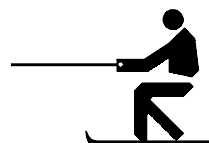




Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

## We're cookin' now!

Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, takes a moment at a picnic Friday to demonstrate his hamburger cooking skills. The picnic was a reward given to Laughlin members by the commander to celebrate the end of the Operational Readiness Inspection and everyone's hard work to prepare for it.

## Laughlin history

Q: In September 1961, the Air Training Command activated the 3645th Pilot Training Wing at Laughlin and phased one-half of the Undergraduate Pilot Training mission at Laredo AFB, Texas, to Laughlin. Why did Laughlin receive half of Laredo's training load?

- (a) With SAC's imminent departure, the Air Force had to find a use for Laughlin.
- (b) A strike by support personnel hampered Laredo's ability to meet its mission.
- (c) Laredo AFB had substandard facilities.

The correct answer is ... (C). Laredo's infrastructure and runways were poor and the Air Force had limited funds for construction and repairs. At the same time, the Department of Defense announced that Laughlin was scheduled for closure and SAC planned to move the 4080th Strategic Wing to Davis-Monthan. Because ATC needed another pilot school to take over some of Laredo's training load, Laughlin escaped the axe. However, the U-2 wing did not move to Davis-Monthan until mid-1963, hampering Laughlin's ability to start full-up UPT.

## Rodeo meeting

The Ride For The Brand Rodeo Team will be holding a meeting at the base stables Sunday at 4 p.m.

For more information, call Al Hyatt at 298-0051 or David Darling at 298-0758.

## Travel vouchers

As part of the 47th Comptroller Flight year-end closeout procedures, all travel vouchers must be submitted within two days after completion of a temporary duty assignment.

Vicinity travel vouchers must be filed on a weekly basis. The normal five-day rule will be in effect again after Sept. 30.

For more information, contact customer service at 5215.

## Annual leave donations

The Civilian Personnel Flight is requesting Annual Leave Donations for the following employees. They are all experiencing their own medical hardships.

**Ronald Brunson, 47th Support Group**

**Okie Johnson, 47th Flying Training Wing**

**Sonja Riordan, 47th Operations Group**

**Armando Trevino, 47th Operations Group**

If you would like to donate annual leave to assist these individuals with their emergencies, please contact Patty Fleming at 5127.

## POW/MIA Recognition

Col. (retired) Dwight Sullivan, former prisoner of war, will be speaking at Laughlin Sept. 15 for POW/MIA Recognition Day. Sullivan will speak at the following locations:

3 p.m. – Operations Training Complex auditorium, discussion on POW issues.

5 p.m. – Retreat ceremony at Wing Headquarters Building, followed by refreshments.

Everyone is welcome to join in this day of recognition for those who have made extraordinary sacrifices on behalf of our country.

For more information, call 5698.

## VA Health Fair and Enrollment

The South Texas Veterans Health Care System will conduct a health fair in Del Rio, Texas today from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and again Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The health fair will be held at the Veterans Service Office, 207 Losoya, Del Rio.

Basic medical screening and information for veterans who may not have used the VA medical care system in the past.

All veterans are encouraged to attend and enroll at the health fair.

For more information, call Nic Villanueva at 792-2441 during the day and (830) 896-7114 at night.

## Thrift Shop bag sale

The base Thrift Shop will host a Thrift Shop Bag Sale Sept. 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This sale will allow members to purchase items from the Thrift Shop property room for \$1 per plastic grocery bag and \$2 per paper grocery bag.

For more information about the Thrift Shop Bag Sale, call Amy King at 298-3731 or come by the base Thrift Shop.

## Autumn Arts and Crafts

The Laughlin Officers' Spouses' Club will host an Autumn Arts and Crafts Bazaar from 3 to 8 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Fiesta Center.

For more information or to reserve a booth, call Jane Juselis at 298-0224.

## Wine taste testing

The Del Rio branch of the American Red Cross will be hosting its second annual wine tasting Sept. 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Pecan Street Station in Del Rio. Wines from across Texas will be served.

For more information or to purchase tickets for \$15, call the American Red Cross office at 775-8626 or Phyllis Brown at 775-1632.

## Base recycling

The method of surveillance for the reuse and recycling service for the base housing and mobile home residents is customer complaint.

If you have large items like mattresses, sofas, or carpet for trash disposal, you can arrange for a pick up at your housing unit.

For more information, or to voice customer complaints, contact Pat Lunn at 5247.

## Academy football game

The Air Force Academy Junior Varsity team will be playing Sul Ross State University today at 6 p.m. at the Del Rio High School stadium.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Blake Morgan at 5445.

## POV travel reimbursement

Active-duty members may be reimbursed when using their privately owned vehicles to transport children 4 years old and younger to medical appointments outside of the local area. The child must be referred by a medical group provider and be placed on nonmedical attendant orders authorizing travel.

Upon return from the temporary duty assignment a travel voucher must be completed at the finance office within five duty days from the date of returning.

For more information, call the Tricare Flight Office at 6301.

## Poster contest

The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive are sponsoring a poster contest with a recycling theme of "For Our Children's Future ... Buy Recycled Today."

The contest is open to government personnel and government contractor immediate family members in grades Kindergarten – 12th grade.

The winning posters will be featured in the America Recycles Day 2001 calender.

Entries must be postmarked by Sept. 30 to Headquarters Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence Compliance and Pollution Prevention Services, 3207 North Road, Brooks AFB, Texas, 78235, Attn: N. Carper.

For more information, or to get an entry form, contact Pat Woods, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, at 4351, or send an email to [pat.woods@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:pat.woods@laughlin.af.mil).

***Air Amistad 2000 featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds is coming Oct. 8!***